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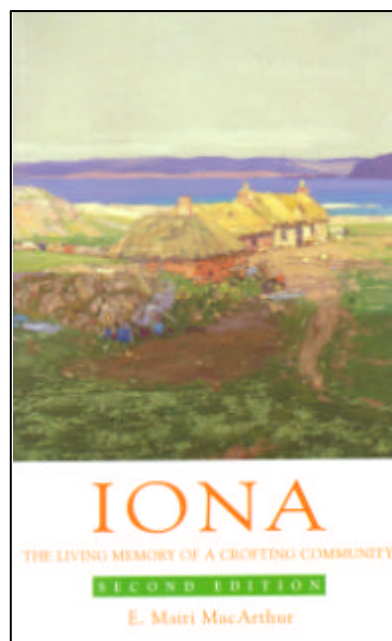
The Living Memory Of A Crofting Community

By E. Mairi MacArthur

The Hebridean island of Iona has been the focus of intense outside interest for over 1,400 years, from the time of St Columba's monastery in the sixth century through to the transfer of its renowned monuments into the care of Historic Scotland in the year 2000. Yet the people who lived and worked alongside its sacred sites have been largely overshadowed - until now.

This book is the first to redress the balance, taking an in-depth look at Iona's economic and social history during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, a period that saw profound change across the Highlands and Islands. It charts the agricultural reorganization that led to a crofting system. It follows the islanders through the harsh decade of the potato famine. And it records their worship and education, their crafts and customs, and the ties of kinship that underpinned their community.

IONA – The Living Memory of a Crofting Community weaves together a broad range of sources; documentary, material, topographical and photographic, along with oral testimony handed down the generations to create a lively picture of Iona's past.



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